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# IN-SITES

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FALL, 1990

## From the Department Head's Desk

*Richard Toth*

In the spring of 1989 the faculty and students shared with friends and alumni the 50th Anniversary of the LAEP Department at Utah State University. From all reports of those alumni who attended, it was a thoroughly enjoyable time and for those who could not be here, we missed you! All alumni appreciate the energy and effort of Professor Mike Timmons in organizing the event.

The undergraduate program was re-accredited for another five year period by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board. The graduate program went through a similar re-evaluation this past February, and was also granted a five year full accreditation.

Partly as a consequence of some of our alumni activities during the 50th Anniversary reunion and our mid-year scholarship drive, we are pleased to announce the first endowed academic scholarship under the name of David Jensen (BLA 1965). The generosity of David's gift will provide \$1,000 a year to an outstanding student in the Department. We were also pleased by a number of other significant gifts from our alumni this year. These funds have been placed in our general scholarship endowment, and we would like to thank all of you who have contributed this year.

## Honors

In May, the LAEP Department's Environmental Field Service Program recieved an award of merit from the Utah chapter of the American Planning Association. The Environmental Field Service Program was initiated in 1976 to provide planning assistance to communities that could not otherwise afford professional planning and design consultants.

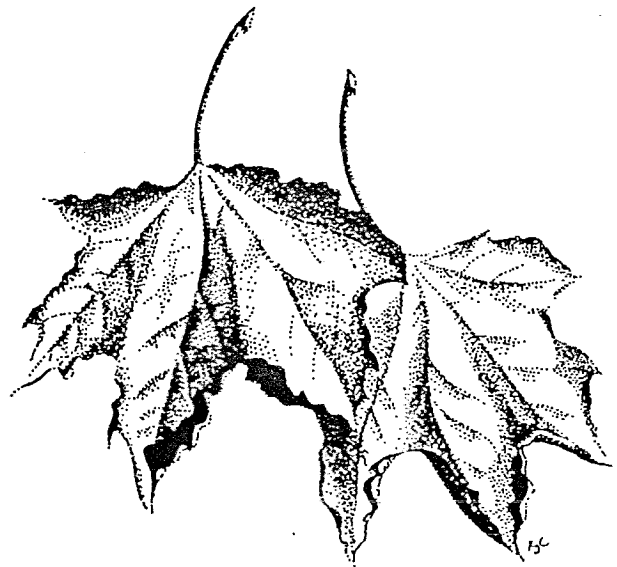
In other awards, the National Honor Society for Landscape Architecture - Sigma Lambda Alpha - conferred two awards on LAEP people. Craig Johnson was named National Distinguished Member for his outstanding record in teaching, research, and service. Only one or two truly outstanding individuals receive this award each year. There is now only one academic program in the country that has two active faculty who have received this honor, and that is LAEP at USU with Richard Toth and Johnson. Sigma Lambda Alpha also awards two national scholarships, one each for an undergraduate and a graduate student. This year Lecinda Pierce, LAEP, received the undergraduate award. She is currently continuing her education at the Harvard GSD. We are proud to note that in the last five years, LAEP students have captured three of these national student scholarships.

## New Urban Forestry Manual Available

A second edition of the Urban Forestry Manual is hot off the press! The geographic focus, orginally Utah and southern Idaho, has been expanded to include 18 states: from Texas to western Minnesota, and eastern Washington to Arizona. Chapters have been added to incorporate new information about urban soils, xeriscapes, tree care programming, urban wildlife, liability, and litigation. Tree selection lists are provided for each state.

Professor Craig Johnson, principle author of the first edition, teamed up with USU Extension Forester Fred Baker and University of Nevada Extension horticulture specialist Wayne Johnson. The Intermountain Region of the U.S. Forest Service published the second edition.

*Urban & Community Forestry: A Guide for the Interior Western United States* is available from USU Extension Publications for \$13.50 postage paid, and their address is UMC 5015, Utah State University, Logan, UT. (801-750-1363).



Illustrations by Kathlyn Collins (MLA '90) and David Socwell (BLA '83), from Department publications: *Community Forestry Manual*, *Wildlife Conservation Manual for Urbanizing Areas in Utah*, and *Creating Landscapes for Wildlife*.

## Graduate Student Update

Last year the Regional Planning Studio completed a second phase of work in Moab, Utah and began a project on the South Fork of the Snake River, Idaho. As part of a new comprehensive plan for Bonneville County, Idaho, the grads have developed environmental impact models and a wildlife habitat plan for a large section of eastern Idaho landscape.

The following MLA and MS students have completed their thesis or terminal project since 1989.

1990, Collins, Kathlyn (MLA). Vegetation Plan for the Jordan River Parkway, Murray, Utah. Major Professor - Johnson.

1989, Crook, Susan (MLA). History of the Department of Landscape Architecture at Utah State University 1930-1965. Major Professor - Timmons.

1989, Ferrara, Michael V. (MLA). Computer-Aided Design and Drafting: A Landscape Architecture Application. Major Professor - Ellsworth.

1990, Gaeddert, John (MS). The Ability of Small Communities to Afford Construction of Wastewater Treatment Facilities. Major Professor - Johnson.

1989, Garner, Jon (MLA). El Monte Golf Course: An Analysis and Redesign of Golf Facilities in the Context of an Urban Parkway. Major Professor - Wegkamp.

1989, Nordstrom, Susan K. (MLA). Integrating Wildlife Habitat in Cluster Housing Developments. Major Professor - Johnson.

1989, Mazurski, Madeline (MLA). An Assessment of Thematic Mapper Satellite Data for Classifying Conifer Types in Northern Utah. Major Professor - Johnson.

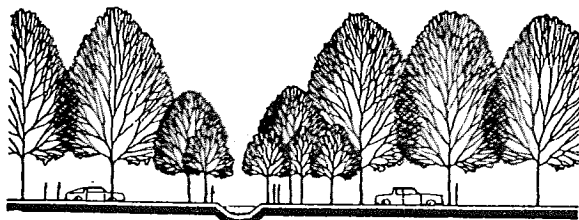
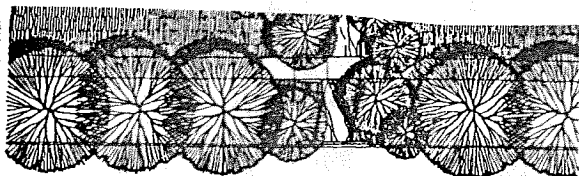
1989, Pando, Monica M. (MLA). Salt Lake City Residents' Attitudes Toward Co-Existing with Wildlife in Urban Settings. Major Professor - Johnson.

1989, Rabin, Daniel (MLA). Using Computer Imaging to Assess Visual Impacts of Forest Insect and Disease Pests. Major Professor - Ellsworth.

1990, Weiner, Gary (MLA). The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act: Improving River Conservation on Private Lands. Major Professor - Toth.

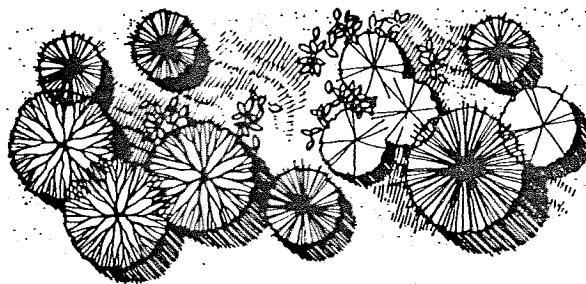
1989, Whetstone, Kirsten (MS). Utah's Food System: Planning for Future Security, Renewable Resource Sustainability, and Economic Development. Major Professor - Nicholson.

1990, Wright, Linda Perelli (MLA). A Natural Resource Inventory Project Report for Hebron, CT. Major Professor - Johnson.



## LAEP Week Service Project

Thursday, May 10, 1990, brought a hands-on experience for 42 USU Landscape Architecture students and 7 faculty members. The project, located near Randolph, Utah, southeast of Bear Lake, consisted of rehabilitation and restoration of a riparian area. This particular site was damaged by overgrazing of cattle. The riparian zone will now be fenced and protected for the next 10-12 years. The students and faculty were under the direction of 15 Bureau of Land Management employees from the Slat Lake City Office, headed by Leon Berggren. Besides the approximate 8,000 feet of barbed wire fencing that was installed, there were eight small check dams and one large gabion dam built along the small stream to slow erosion.



## A Loss in the LAEP Family

Faculty, students, and friends of the LAEP Department were saddened to hear of the passing of Rachel Bankhead Morris on January 1, 1990. She died in Logan at the age of 87.

She and her husband LaVal Morris moved to Logan in the 1930's, where LaVal founded the Department of Landscape Architecture at Utah State University. During World War II, Rachel taught in the Landscape Architecture Department while her husband was in the service. She practiced as a landscape architect and designed the grounds of many Cache Valley homes.

Rachel and LaVal Morris established the Morris Travel Fellowship, which annually awards money for international travel to a graduating LAEP student.



## International Seminar of Architecture September 1989 • Buenos Aires Argentina

Last summer the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning at Utah State University was invited to send a group of faculty and students to participate in an International Architectural Seminar in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The seminar was sponsored by the University of Buenos Aires with the primary objective to promote interdisciplinary debate between professionals and students in the areas of planning, architecture, landscape architecture, and design. The Utah State University group was comprised of three senior undergraduate students, one graduate student, and Professor Vern Budge. USU was the only school representing the United States and the profession of landscape architecture. All of the other teams were architectural students and faculty from Universities in Spain, Austria, Venezuela, Brazil, and Argentina. In all, the seminar had approximately 80 students and 24 faculty participating.

The seminar lasted 15 days which included several lectures and presentations by professionals and faculty from the various countries participating. On the second day of the seminar, the students and faculty were divided into eight different teams to work on a common project as a design competition. The USU students along with six other English speaking students from Venezuela and Argentina were selected to work together as a team with Professor Budge as the faculty member. The intent of the common project was to explore various approaches to urban design and to provide the municipality of San Isidro (a community on the northern edge of Buenos Aires) with site designs and a zoning map for a large area along the Rio de la Plata River.

At the conclusion of the seminar the teams presented and displayed their proposed designs to the citizens of San Isidro at a large shopping mall in Buenos Aires. Finally the projects were juried by several members of the municipality, practicing architects and faculty members from Argentina. The final design proposal by the team with the USU students received very good reviews and was chosen by the municipality as the most feasible for implementing and meeting the needs of their city.

The prospects are good that the LAEP Department at Utah State University may be able to develop a long term commitment with the University of Buenos Aires and have a significant role in promoting the profession of landscape architecture in Argentina.

## Outstanding Alumni Award

Finally, the Department did a little awarding of its own this year. Joe Porter (USU '63) was named Outstanding Alumni. Joe is a Principal in Design Workshop of Aspen, Colorado, a planning and design firm with an international reputation for quality and innovative work. This honor is bestowed yearly upon one individual whom the Faculty believe has established a record of excellence in practice and leadership in the profession. Kenji Schiozawa (USU '40) was the first recipient in 1989.

Congratulations to Joe - we are all very proud of him!

## Juniors Log Some Miles for Recreation Design Project

Junior LAEP students participated in an Environmental Field Service project as part of their Recreational Design studio course winter quarter. The purpose of the project was to provide the citizens of Cedar City, Utah with ideas and alternatives for recreational development in The Festival City.

During the first week of the quarter they traveled south to become more familiar with Cedar City, and to gather data. The students then prepared five different master plan proposals--two concentrating on the Coal Creek corridor and three examining recreational linkage possibilities throughout the community. After four weeks and one more site visit, these proposals were presented at a public meeting in Cedar City. (The timing of this meeting coincided nicely with the Utah ASLA meeting in St. George, and some sightseeing in Zion National Park!) Attendees were impressed with the professional quality and polish of these presentations.

For the remainder of the quarter, students prepared designs for parks, playgrounds, and trails that responded to the unique environment and potentials of Cedar City.

The students and the projects benefitted from input provided by USU LAEP graduates Jennifer Harrington (MLA '83), now with the city of Park City, Utah and Bob Smith (BLA '70), of the DHM office in Denver.





## Landscape Architecture Faculty Update

The LAEP faculty continues to be involved in a variety of professional and scholarly pursuits:

Professor and Department Head **Richard Toth** has been working with University faculty to develop curricula in the Liberal Arts and Sciences program for USU undergraduates. He presented two papers, "Hydologic and Riparian Systems: A Foundation Network for Landscape Planning" and "The Contribution of Landscape Planning to Environmental Protection: An Overview of Activities in the United States" at the International Landscape Planning Conference in Hannover, West Germany in June. He participates as a reviewer for CELA and for the *Landscape Journal*, and has recently been appointed to the board of directors of the Hubbard Educational Trust.

**Vern Budge** got the year off to an eventful start last fall by leading a group of students to Buenos Aires, Argentina for a two-week seminar and design competition (see related story). During the spring, he initiated the LAEP Week service project with the BLM (see related story). This past summer, he and Craig Johnson completed a natural resource inventory for the Fremont County, Idaho comprehensive plan.

**John Ellsworth** has been active presenting papers over the past year. He spoke at the ASLA Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida, the Environmental Design Research Association Annual Meeting in Champaign, Illinois, the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Annual Conference in Denver, the Utah ASLA Annual Meeting in St. George, and at the Western Planners Conference in Bozeman, Montana. He has also written a chapter on visual impact analysis for surface mines for an upcoming book called Post Mining Land Use Planning and Design. Most of John's scholarly work involves landscape perception, visual impact assessment and computer simulation. John is also active as a professional consultant in these areas.

**Jerry Fuhrman's** recent work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has included master planning and visitor center design for the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge in Sassabe, Arizona and the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge in Lawton, Oklahoma. He has been involved also in planning for an aquatic park for the city of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

This year, **Craig Johnson** completed a master plan for the Jordan River Parkway in Murray City, Utah. He also completed work on the second edition of the *Urban Forestry Manual*, and continued progress on his *Wildlife Conservation Manual for Urbanizing Areas in Utah*. At the University he

has also been involved with the development of the Liberal Arts and Sciences program. He is active as a professional consultant in environmental impact analysis and natural resource management. Craig is on sabbatical leave at the University of Arizona during the 1990-91 academic year. Even with all of this activity, yes, he still finds plenty of time for ice fishing and grouse hunting!

**John Nicholson** made a presentation titled "Geographic Information Systems for the Small Office" at the 1990 Utah Chapter ASLA meeting. He led the graduate studio Environmental Field Service project in Bonneville County, Idaho last winter. His grant to the U.S. Informtaion Agency yielded \$25,000 that will enable 15 USU LAEP students to participate in an exchange program with landscape architecture students at the University of Ljubljana, Yugoslavia during the spring quarter of 1991.

**Sue Nordstrom** is in her second year of a temporary appointment on the LAEP faculty. She presented a paper, "Incorporating Wildlife Habitat in Cluster Housing Developments" last May at a symposium of the Canadian Society for Landscape Ecology and Management. She continued her work with the National Park Service during the summer. A booklet she authored, *Creating Landscapes to Attract Wildlife*, will be published this fall in cooperation with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. She has contributed three chapters, editing, and review to Craig Johnson's book, *A Wildlife Conservation Manual for Urbanizing Areas in Utah*.

The graphic and organizational efforts of **Larry Wegkamp** this year were instrumental in obtaining National Landmark status for the Bear River Battle/Massacre site. Also in his role as Community Development Extension Specialist he developed community forestry proposals and programs for several Utah communities, along with two regional park/equestrian facility site development plans now being implemented.

The faculty and students said good-bye to **Mike Timmons** this year. Mike has resigned his appointment at USU and is currently teaching in the Department of Landscape Architecture at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo with another former LAEP faculty member, Gerry Smith (who is now the Department Chair there). Mike was a valued and respected member of the LAEP Faculty for fourteen years. He will be missed, but we all wish him well and expect to see him from time to time for the Annual Faculty Retreat on the Henry's Fork of the Snake River! Good Luck, Mike!!

